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MAKING THE GOAT A WAR HORSE.

The latest contribution to the prompt plans for the national defense come from Sen. Kern of Indiana. He proposes to mobilize the fraternal orders of the country.

Many of these orders, he remarks, have uniformed ranks with considerable military training. He was amazed recently by the drilling of the Knights of Pythias at their summer camp in Toronto. Similar efficiency in maneuvers is found in the uniformed ranks of the Knights of Columbus, the Junior Order, the Masons and many other societies.

While it is perfectly true, Sen. Kern says, "that these men are trained to drill and not to fight, the important point is that their inclination led the members to enlist in the organization and give their time to the training necessary. When a man has learned to take orders promptly and without question, he has learned the first and most important lesson of a soldier."

There is, thus, as he remarks, "a tremendous number of comparatively young men who have already learned much of military science. They are very thoroughly organized, and in a very short time could be transformed into efficient soldiers." He would have summer military academies established in which they could be given additional drill, rifle work and other training necessary to complete their instruction, under the direction of regular army officers. Thus they would soon constitute a big, efficient army reserve. The idea was recently broached locally by F. E. Hering in the *Eagles' Magazine*.

It isn't likely that the suggestion will be carried out literally, and regiments, divisions and corps be organized from the various orders. The goat, the ancient symbol of the secret society, will not be metamorphosed into a war horse. Nevertheless, it is evident that these societies will be in position to furnish unofficially large numbers of recruits to any civilian soldier army that congress may establish.

HOW TO SUCCEED.

John D. Rockefeller, sr., says the way to succeed financially is to "save the pennies." John D., jr., says that we can all get rich by being honest and zealous in our jobs. J. W. Higgins, once messenger boy and now manager of some 30 railroads, says the way to succeed is just to "work and work." David R. Forgan, a big Chicago banker, says the secret is to combine energy and religion.

And doubtless they're all right about it—for themselves. But when any financier or captain of industry or professional man or woman or statesman or anybody else who has risen to eminence tries to make a formula for universal success, he goes wrong. Success can't be prescribed, in any field, any more than old age can.

The chances are that the octogenarian is least of all capable to tell other men how to live to a ripe old age. The weakling who dies at 40 is likely to know far more about the only vital factors that men can control, the common rules of hygiene which may add a few years to a normal life but are no guarantee of pre-eminence in age.

Just as it is primarily the vital energy born in a man that carries him through to 80 or 100 while others fall by the wayside, or the natural talent that makes a poet or novelist or painter, it is the natural gift for business that usually makes business success.

There are business geniuses, just as there are artistic geniuses. The genius does easily what the man of modern endowment struggles hard to accomplish and what the mere plodder can never attain even with the aid of all the advice in the world.

And there is the factor of accident to reckon with, too. A man may become rich through a lucky chance, just as a strong man may be killed by an unlucky one. Many a business man who owes his prestige to a casual event or the friendly favor of a business genius gives the world tedious advice on the secret of success.

Giving advice isn't a very profitable sort of business anyhow. Few are capable of giving it, and still fewer are capable of receiving it.

There are as many kinds of success as there are kinds of people, and as many kinds of people as there are individuals. Every person is a law unto himself. And he will succeed not in proportion as he imitates somebody else, but in proportion as he develops his own personal talent along his own lines, finding his most congenial work and putting himself into it. Moral and professional advice can merely give a little to oil the machinery.

SPEAKING OF PORK.
Congressman Garner of Texas has distinguished himself by giving frank and unblushing expression to the philosophy of political pork. Others may

disguise their pork barrel activities in a garb of patriotism, but Rep. Garner is no hypocrite. He is in congress not for any such fool purpose as conserving public funds and voting money according to a wise and efficient plan of expenditure.

"Every time one of the other fellows gets a ham," he says, "I am going to do my best to get a hog."

And he gets the porker all right. "There are half a dozen places in my district," he boasts, "where federal buildings are being erected or have been recently constructed at a cost to the government far in excess of the actual needs of the communities where they are located. Take Elvalde, my home town, for instance. We are putting up a postoffice down there at a cost of \$60,000, when a \$5,000 building would be entirely adequate for our needs."

Thus Congressman Garner demonstrates his peculiar fitness for the office which he adorns. He is sent to congress not as a statesman, but as a sort of business agent to juggle money from the federal treasury into the pockets of his constituents. His district may be assumed to deserve a certain proportion of the national expenditures, based on the needs of its population. His value as a congressman rises in proportion as he gets more money for his district than it deserves. The rest of the country, of course, is of no importance.

And his constituents, we are led to infer, approve of this porcine statesmanship. And other constituencies judge their congressmen by the same porcine standards. Or don't they?

OUR BEST DEFENSE.

Speech Wilson said in his recent speech in New York, outlining his plan of army and navy development:

The chief thing necessary in America in order that she should lead all the world know that she is prepared to maintain her own great position is that the real voice of the nation should sound forth unmistakably and in majestic volume in the deep unison of common, unhesitating national feeling.

That is merely an eloquent variation of the president's more blunt utterance in Washington a month ago expressing a desire for "a line-up of Americans," in which those who for America first should stand on the right side, and those who are for some other country first should stand on the left—in Scriptural phrase, "a parting of the sheep and the goats."

It is a call for the abolition of hyphenism, the peril that has raised its head in America for the first time. It seeks the elimination not of any particular hyphen, but of all hyphens. The best spirit of America is demanding that there shall be no more professed German-Americans, Anglo-Americans, Irish-Americans, Italian-Americans, Franco-Americans or any other kind of qualified or adjectival Americans. The president has not merely voiced his personal desire, but expressed this new national ideal.

And nearly all Americans, native or alien-born, can sincerely repeat the president's assurances:

I do not doubt that upon the first occasion, upon the first opportunity, upon the first definite challenge, that voice (the real voice of the nation), will speak forth in tones that no man can doubt and with commands that no man dare gainsay or resist.

These words express not merely a hope but an imperative necessity. It must be so. Just as it became obvious once that this nation "could not endure half slave and half free," it is now obvious that it cannot endure half native and half alien. And the best defense we can have against foreign aggression from any quarter is a new, unanimous Americanism.

POISONING WAR HORSES.

According to a staff writer of the Chicago Tribune, no stranger is allowed to pat a horse's nose in the Chicago stockyards. Anybody who approaches a horse in friendly wise is met by the blunt, official order from a guard, "Go away from that horse's head!"

Why? Oh, merely because strangers have been killing and maiming the horses. Some have killed the poor brutes with poisoned syringes in the stockyards. Others have hamstringed them with knives in the cattle cars.

For the stockyards and railroads are now in the "war zone." Horses are being shipped in large numbers to Europe, and there are always "war bugs" trying to interfere with the shipments.

"Half of the European war is being fought in America," says a stock dealer. And so the dumb brutes during every moment of their long trip from the western ranch or farm to the European market, must be watched to save them from the poison and the knife. Stock men, railroad men, dock men and vessel men must be eternally vigilant.

It's just one little part of the vast, complex game in which partisans of one group of warring nations are trying, on neutral soil, to prevent the other group from getting supplies.

Every sort of merchandise sold to England, France or Russia is similarly menaced. Automobiles are put out of commission enroute. Factories are blown up and burned, or their output is ruined. Warehouses are subject to incendiary fires. Bombs are placed on ships to sink them at sea.

Shells, sugar or horses, it's all the same—anything to destroy them! But the poisoning or mutilation of horses is the most revolting of the whole shameful business.

EASY FOR THE POLICE.

A Seattle woman received a wire from her husband, who left home eight years ago, asking her to meet him at the station.

Woman-like, she told the neighbors and some of them in turn informed the police. The wife met the train and as her erring husband, well dressed and prosperous looking, was about to fold her joyously in his arms, the Seattle guardians of the public peace wrestled them apart and threw the man in jail for desertion and non-support, on the principle, we presume, that two wrongs make a right. The act of the Seattle officers was perfectly legal, doubtless, but the average individual, capable of ordinary discernment, will figure it out to be one of asinine stupidity and unwarranted officiousness.

WHAT THE PAPERS SAY

GOVERNOR RALSTON'S PLAN.
(Fort Wayne Sentinel.)
Speaking before the state conference of charities and corrections at Richmond on Sunday, Gov. Ralston gave utterance to one of the most important addresses he has delivered since assuming the gubernatorial chair. He urged strongly a revision of the present system of management of the state penal and benevolent institutions, and would place them all under the direction of a central non-partisan body of four members at an annual salary of \$4,000 each, who would devote their entire time to the work, replacing the present boards of trustees whose official duties are merely incidental to their private business interests.

The governor made haste to say that he had no criticism to offer regarding the work of the present boards; that, he was satisfied with the way the institutions were being administered. His complaint is against the present system, which he declares is not economical and is a barrier to the highest degree of efficiency. He cited the fact that Indiana has nearly \$14,000,000 of its money invested in these institutions, and that the annual expense for maintenance totals something like \$2,500,000. He believes the administration of these institutions and penal affairs could be made more economical and efficient by placing them under one central board of control, composed of members of high business and executive ability. It is doubtless true that public funds rarely purchase so much dollar for dollar as do those of the private individual or the business corporation, and it is the governor's idea that the state is entitled to the best possible service for the least possible cost. Whether he is right or wrong in his contention, he has given the people of Indiana something of importance to think about.

OCTOBER'S EXPORT TRADE.

(New York Post.)
The government's statement of last week's foreign trade at the country's twelve principal ports, given out at Washington last Tuesday, completed the preliminary showing for October. Possibly because less shipping facilities were available, last week's merchandise exports were shown to have been \$21,000,000 less than in the week preceding, but with that exception, they broke all previous weekly records. The \$42,300,000 excess of exports over imports of last week was only three times exceeded; by the \$70,000,000 outward balance of the third week of October, the \$42,300,000 of the second week of October, and the \$47,200,000 of the second week of March.

Taking all the weekly October statements together, these preliminary figures would indicate an export surplus for the month of \$210,000,000. This figure of itself would surpass all monthly precedent, and show the outward movement of war munitions from the United States to be of a larger influence than at any time before. But the actual figures will be much larger, because these weekly statements cover only part of the country's ports. In September, for example, while the "export excess" indicated by the preliminary weekly figures was \$106,000,000, the excess as given in the later complete returns for the month was \$146,300,000.

If the October preliminary figures are to be subject to the same ratio of increase in the final statement, last month's export surplus would be \$294,000,000. The high record for any month in our past history was the \$175,000,000 of last February.

WORK FOR THE IDLE RICH.

(Muskogee, Okla., Phoenix.)
Whatever any one may think of the England of today, no one can deny the greatness for five hundred years. Strong, capable, a leader of men and nations, she made her name one of the most splendid that adorns history. And if we look into the cause of this, we shall have to place first among them the existence in public life of men of high intelligence and ample resources who devoted their lives to the government of the country. It is exactly in proportion to the decline in numbers and influence of that class that she has lost or appeared to lose her old place among the nations.

There was from the beginning in England, as there is in every country, a considerable number of men of wealth and leisure. It was a tradition among them that they owed a service to their country. Every man well born and possessed of an income had received from boyhood an education that would fit him for public service. He went into parliament, into the army, into the foreign service as soon as he could enter. He did not serve for mere gain, and would have scorned as a degrading idea of using his place for personal advantage. The best thought of the country, the highest standard of honor in the country, were devoted to the state. That was the true foundation of England's greatness and the secret of its long permanence. It is one feature that any other nation might imitate.

Look at our own condition. The United States contains today more men of large resources and independent income than any other country in the world. What does one find them doing, for the most part? Devoting their lives wholly to making money, they or to amusements or to idleness. They are driving motor cars or sailing yachts all over the land and

THE MELTING POT

COME! TAKE POTLUCK WITH US.

IN Japan they make their politics a part of their religion. In Europe the parties in power call upon God to witness that their cause is just. In the U. S. alone is politics unadulterated.

WITHIN the realms of courtesy there is no defense against the man who wants to discuss the war with you. That which cannot be cured must be endured. Let him talk himself out. It will relieve him and you can shed it.

"TELL your client," said Judge Funk, addressing a member of the bar defending a divorce suit, "he should not stay out late at night." This ruling, or opinion, or injunction, or friendly advice, as you please, must be construed as being based, not on the written law, but on the unwritten code which forms the basis of all legislative action. It is a product of experience, not necessarily personal in this instance, but founded on observation of human life as it is lived.

A VERDICT of six cents in the \$25,000 libel suit at Benton Harbor probably represents the mean difference between the parties. The balance of the testimony was so even and so uniformly derogatory to both sides that the jury found a choice to gain its liberty.

AFTER that, as before, we could not guarantee the Purnell outfit a welcome in South Bend.

Only That the Ruling is Arbitrary.

(Detroit News.)
New York critics decide that a skirt nine inches from the ground displays all of the girl's ankle.—South Bend News-Times.
Well, then, that's fair enough, isn't it? Whatta ya moaning about?

WE know nothing about the movie business except what we see from the back seats, but it looks to us as though a film of the peripatetic Ser-

water of the globe. They are building enormous pleasure palaces in the city and creating big estates which they do not know how to enjoy in the country. They are catering to every form of luxury and assisting, by the desire to imitate, in the spread of every form of vice. And meantime our governments, national, state and local are paralyzed by incompetency and honeycombed with graft. Here and there a misfortune could be made to correct each other. The times call for a rebirth of patriotism which should make every man feel that he owes his life to the service of his country in peace just as much as in war.

AFTER THE WAR.

(Charleston, S. C., News and Courier.)
Announcement from Washington that officials of the department of commerce are working on plans to prevent unfair competition when the belligerents, with peace restored, turn their attention to rebuilding their shaken fortunes, is of double interest. It not only shows that the administration, always alert to the needs of legitimate enterprise, will continue its policy of enforcing freedom of industry, but also indicates that out of the evils of war has come some development helpful to the growth of the nation.

The industries which fear "dumping" after the war are those which, in the emergency of a confounding of world trade, were built up to supply the place of foreign enterprise cut off by the war.

That America should reap the benefit of its own ingenuity and application by home manufacture is greatly to be desired. Once this country can build up, under free trade, industries which have languished even under the so-called protection of high tariffs, its prosperity will be more certain and more broadly distributed than ever.

HE UNDERSTOOD.

An automobile was going up the mountain. A man, driving a team of mules, was coming down.

There was not room enough to pass, and, of course, the motorist felt that it was up to him to back down and give the mules the right of way. But there was an obstacle. In the back seat of the automobile sat a woman, the wife of the driver.

"You'll not back down," she said. "But, my dear, the man can't back his mules up the mountain."

"I don't care. We'll not back down." There was a pause, then the man with the mules sighed, shook hands with the motorist and, looking toward the woman, said:

"That's all right, old man. I'll back the mules up the mountain. I've got one just like that at home."

REMARKABLE.

Strange, is it not, of the officials who have cut so many salaries in two. Not one has ever risen to suggest that their own wages might be cut down, too!

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Letters of the People

November 12, 1915.
Editor News-Times:
How significant that the Humane society belongs to the South Bend Federation for Social Service, which is now before the public with its Good Will campaign. Charity to be complete must take in charity toward animals. Cruelty toward animals begets cruelty toward human beings. Kindness toward animals begets kindness toward human beings.
MAUDE CUMMINGS.

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